

5964



October 13, 2011
For Immediate Release

Contact:
Terry Holt
202-789-4365

STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT RICARDO MARTINELLI ABOUT CONGRESSIONAL PASSAGE OF PANAMA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

"On behalf of the people of Panama, I express my thanks to the overwhelming number of members of Congress from both political parties who voted to pass the Panama-U.S. free trade agreement. Yesterday's votes sent a powerful signal about the strength of our bilateral relationship and the deep desire in both countries to expand it.

"Through their hard work and supportive pro-growth policies, Panamanians are building one of the strongest, most competitive economies in Latin America. Once the free trade agreement is finalized our growth will create significant new opportunities for U.S. companies and their workers as well as our own."

"I look forward to working with President Obama and his Administration to finish the process of approving this agreement and continuing our work on the many issues of mutual interest our two countries share.

###

2011 OCT 14 PM12:45